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15.	Providing amusement facilities and beautification of LBS Park at Mettur Dam in Salem District
16.	Development of Thanjavur under Mega Tourism Project
17.	Establishment of Night Safari near Arignaranna Zoological Park, Vandalur Chennai

Failure in implementing tourism projects

†3197. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have failed in implementing the Centrally sponsored tourism projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Central Government has demanded to return the amount provided to State Governments for these projects;

(d) if so, whether this is the only alternative to prevent the failure of implementation of these projects; and

(e) if not, the other alternatives Government should consider?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to States/Union Territories for tourism projects on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. Implementation and monitoring of projects is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism however, also monitors the implementation of projects through review meetings and site visits from time to time.

Proposals for tourism development in state of Punjab

3198. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for the development of tourism in the State of Punjab at present pending with the Centre;

(b) by when each one of them is likely to be approved by the Centre and the funds proposed to be sanctioned and disbursed to State in each case; and

(c) the reasons for delay in cases where the proposals are pending for over two years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UT Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India extends Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects based on the proposals received from them complete in all respects as per the scheme guidelines, inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned infrastructure projects for Rs.2667.61 lakh during 11th Plan to the State Government of Punjab.

Processing of urban waste under JNNURM

3199. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handling, mitigation and processing of urban waste is one of the elements of JNNURM;

(b) whether it is a fact that the municipalities are facing serious constraints in implementing urban waste handling and processing facilities;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the deadline for implementing solid waste management measures in every municipality, has been extended from 2003 to 2012; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure compliance by the new deadline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY): (a) Yes, Sir. The handling, mitigation and processing of municipal solid waste is one of the admissible component under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

(b) and (c) Due to weak financial health of the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and institutional weaknesses, the Municipalities are facing constraints in implementing urban waste handling and processing facilities as per the Municipal Solid Waste (management and handling) Rules, 2000 notified by the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Financial constraints in handling and processing urban waste

3200. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA :
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the municipalities are facing serious financial constraints in handling and processing the urban waste;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide financial aid to the municipalities in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Finance Commission had recommended financial devolution of Rs. 2500 crores between 2005-10 to the municipalities for the handling and processing of urban solid waste;